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Nebraska Refugee Health Program

NEBRASKA REFUGEE HEALTH SCREENING PROGRAM CORE SCREENING GUIDELINES FOR REFUGEES, ENTRANTS, VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING AND ASYLEES

I. INTRODUCTION

Under the Refugee Act, Section 412 (b)(5), the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) is responsible for the provision of medical screening and initial medical treatment to all arriving refugees. In Nebraska, the refugee health screening process is administered by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (Nebraska DHHS), Division of Children and Families and the Division of Public Health.

Nebraska DHHS has the authority to plan, develop programs, and make rules and regulations pertaining to refugee resettlement programs. The department has the responsibility to ensure that refugee medical screening will be made available to refugees in accordance with the regulations established by the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), and the requirements detailed in ORR State Letter # 04-10 and 45 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) Part 400.107. The Nebraska DHHS Division of Families and Children participate in a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Nebraska DHHS Division of Public Health, to enter, manage and evaluate the data from refugee health screening.

Health screening is the refugee's introduction to the U.S. health care system. It also represents an opportunity for referral to appropriate continuing care. Health education and patient information about local community health resources are made available in the native languages of refugees.

The refugee health screening program is designed to:

- Ensure follow-up of refugees with conditions identified during the overseas medical exam.
- Evaluate current health status and identify health problems not identified during, or developed subsequent to, the overseas exam (which may have been performed up to one year prior to departure for the U.S.)
- Ensure refugees are referred for follow-up to specialty and primary care, as indicated.
- Identify conditions with a potential to adversely impact effective resettlement.
- Initiate appropriate immunizations which includes childhood immunizations and immunizations required for all refugees to adjust status to become lawful permanent residents of the U.S.
- Provide orientation to the U.S. health care system, including education about the availability and appropriate utilization of health services.

Components to the U.S. Refugee Health Screening protocol include:

1. Overseas Visa Medical Examination

Refugees resettling in the U.S. must receive an overseas visa medical examination prior to departure for the U.S. The overseas exam is the same for refugees worldwide. The components are specified by federal regulations. The purpose of the overseas exam is to identify refugees with medical conditions or psychological disorders that may be a danger to themselves or the general population, which, by law, would exclude them from entry into the U.S. Conditions identified during the overseas exam requiring follow up in the U.S. are designated Class A or Class B.

- A refugee with an excludable condition (Class A) must apply for a waiver to enter the U.S. A condition of the waiver generally includes assurance that necessary medical services will be provided following entry into the U.S.
- Class B conditions do not require a waiver, but do require follow-up medical care on arrival in the U.S.

The overseas exam only provides baseline medical information. It does not allow for supplemental testing for refugees arriving from areas of the world where certain diseases may be endemic or epidemic. Many refugees come from areas where disease control, diagnosis and treatment have been lacking and/or the health care system and public health infrastructure have been interrupted for several years. Because the overseas exam may be completed up to one year before departure, the refugee may develop a communicable disease or other health condition after examination, but before arriving in the U.S.

2. Domestic Health Screening

The domestic refugee health screening differs significantly from the overseas exam. While the overseas examination is intended to identify medical conditions that will exclude an applicant from entering the U.S., the domestic health screening is designed to eliminate health-related barriers which may affect successful resettlement. Such screenings are also protective of the health of the U.S. population. The following are key points of information regarding this screening program:

- All newly arriving refugees are eligible for a federally funded Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA) health screening examination.
- The contractor needs to make the utmost effort to initiate the refugee health assessment within 90 days of entry into the U.S. in order for the refugee to access these no cost services and for the provider to be reimbursed by RMA funds through the Nebraska DHHS Refugee Health Program.
- Asylees and victims of human trafficking are also eligible for the refugee health screening when initiated within 90 days of their certification.

The health provider must be a licensed physician, hospital, community health center, county health department or clinic. The Nebraska DHHS Refugee Health Screening Program contracts with qualified local county and city health departments or other health care providers to provide refugees with health screening. There is a package rate of \$539 per completed health screening for the initial refugee health screening performed within 90 days of arrival.

Vaccines

• Vaccinations may be purchased in the first 90 days and utilized until the end of the vaccination series or within a year of the refugee's first arrival date in the U.S.

Language Barriers

- If the refugee does not speak English, all the services should be provided using qualified multilingual and multicultural medical interpreters.
- Since Nebraska does not license interpreters, the clinical site will make the judgment if an interpreter is qualified

Health screening services must be coordinated with reception and placement services provided by voluntary resettlement agencies (VOLAGs). VOLAGs are responsible for providing refugees with resettlement assistance upon their entry into the U.S. The assistance includes referral services, e.g., health, employment, and education. VOLAGs assist refugees in obtaining the initial health screening.

Providers involved in the initial screening of refugees should have an understanding of, and be sensitive to, the psychological trauma refugees may have experienced in the migration process. It is essential providers understand that refugees may have been subjected to multiple stressors before migrating, while in flight, and, in many cases, during a temporary resettlement period prior to their arrival in the U.S. Although these stressors may have a long-term negative impact on effective resettlement for some individuals, the treatment of mental health needs of refugees should not be the focus of the initial screening encounter. The initial screening process can, however, serve as an opportunity for providers to discuss with refugees the potential psychosocial difficulties they may experience during resettlement, and to refer refugees with identified mental health concerns to trained experts for evaluation and treatment.

PLEASE NOTE: Continuing long-term health care is not a part of the screening service.

Nebraska Refugee Health Process

- Refugees enter the U.S. through the Quarantine Station/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention.
- 2. CDC notifies the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services through the Electronic Disease Notification (EDN).
- 3. The Nebraska Refugee Health Program and Nebraska Tuberculosis (TB) Program receives notification electronically.
- 4. The Nebraska Refugee Health Program reviews and sends out the refugee health record to the health care provider.
- 5. If the refugee is classified with a TB Class B condition, the local health department is notified. If the refugee is classified with a Class A HIV status, the HIV surveillance program manager is notified.
- 6. Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services notifies the clinic working with the refugee resettlement agency to where the refugee is assigned.
- 7. Primary health care providers or local county health department clinic perform initial Nebraska Initial Refugee Health Assessment.
- 8. The primary health care clinic or local county health department submits completed assessment and reporting forms to Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.
- Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services reviews data on forms for quality assurance.
- 10. Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services submits TB follow up information to CDC via EDN.

II. ELIGIBILITY OF REFUGEES FOR HEALTH SCREENING PROGRAM

The provider, in partnership with the referring VOLAG, will determine each individual's eligibility for services. To be eligible for a refugee health screening, proof is required in the form of documentation issued to an individual by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). The documentation must establish one of the following statuses:

- a) Paroled as a refugee or asylee under section 212 (d) (5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).
- b) Admitted as a refugee under section 207 of the INA.
- c) Granted political asylum under section 208 of the INA.

- d) Granted parole status as a Cuban/Haitian Entrant, in accordance with the requirements in 45CFR Section 401.2.
- e) Certain Amerasians from Vietnam.

Treatment Priorities

Priority is given to those persons with medical conditions identified during the overseas medical examination (Class A and B arrivals). These patients should receive health assessments as soon as possible, ideally within 30 days of entry. Providers should coordinate care of Class A and B conditions with local health departments.

The refugee health coordinator will notify the HIV Surveillance Program Manager or the TB Program Manager regarding refugees with incoming Class A or B conditions. *All reportable disease found during the initial refugee health assessment must be reported to the local health authority per Nebraska state statute.*

Reimbursement Time Frame

- A. Providers will receive a package rate of \$539 for refugees screened within 90 days of entry into the U.S.
 - 1. The domestic health assessment should be initiated within 90 days of the refugee's entry into the U.S. (An asylee's entry date is the date the asylee is granted asylum in the U.S.)
 - 2. Send the completed assessment¹ (Attachment D) and billing form (Attachment A) to Nebraska DHHS on a monthly basis no later than 30 days following the month services were performed. Billing will occur monthly.
 - 3. The \$539 rate will be billed at 85% (\$458.15) once the physical exam has been completed within 90 days. This fee is contingent upon refugees being seen for the exam within 90 days of arrival to the U.S. The screening exam must be complete.
 - 4. To encourage the provider to follow through on immunizations, the remaining 15% (\$80.85) will be billed at a time of up to 6 months when immunizations are completed.
 - 5. If a patient is unable to be located, or reached to complete the series, please document this information in NESIIS. The options in NESIIS include "inactive," "moved out of state," and permanently inactive-deceased." If none of these selections are noted, payment will not be made for the remaining 15% (\$80.85).
 - 6. Utilize "The Vaccines for Children Program" for vaccinations for all children.

Providers may not bill both Medicaid and the Refugee Health Program for the same services.

¹ Once the Assessment form is on NESIIS, the provider will send a list of refugees served in place of the assessment form.

The completed billing form (Attachment A) and health assessment screening form (Attachment D) are to be addressed to:

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health Refugee Services Program-Attn: Refugee Medical Coordinator 301 Centennial Mall South P. O. Box 95026 Lincoln, NE 68509-5026

III. RESPONSIBILITIES FOR REFUGEE HEALTH SCREENING PROVIDERS

Refugee Health Screening Program providers *must*:

- 1. Demonstrate clinical and staffing capacity as well as experience in providing health screenings, in accordance with established protocols.
- Be a licensed health care provider, such as a physician, hospital, community health center, county health department or clinic. A nurse practitioner, physician assistant, public health or extended role nurse may conduct the exam, with maximal use of trained assistants. e.g., for blood pressure measurements, hearing or vision screening.
- 3. Coordinate health screening programs with reception and placement services provided by voluntary resettlement agencies (VOLAGs).
- 4. Comply with the Nebraska Refugee Health Assessment Guidelines.
- 5. Prescribe, refer, or supply appropriate medications for infectious diseases and other conditions identified during the health screening; provide immunizations indicated at the time of the health screening visit, per current recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); and provide or refer for continuation of the required immunization series (series to include DPT/Td, IPV, HBV, MMR, Varicella, Influenza, and Pneumococcal immunizations). Varicella and Human Papilloma Quadrivalent vaccines will not be reimbursed for adult refugees at this time.

Infectious Diseases

Tuberculosis

- The Nebraska Refugee Program encourages clinics to utilize the Nebraska TB Program's Medication for Latent Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI). Isoniazid (INH) is available at no charge to patients.
- The provider must complete two forms, "LTBI Case Management Form" and the "LTBI Checklist."
- See http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/puh/cod/Tuberculosis/forms.htm for the forms that need to be sent in.
- The medication is sent to providers to distribute. Any clinic in Nebraska may utilize the program. INH is sent to the provider to distribute to patients.
- Please see specific details at http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/puh/cod/Tuberculosis/Medication-Policy.doc.
- Please contact the Nebraska TB Program Manager, for questions. The phone is (402) 471-6441.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

- Sexually transmitted disease (STD) testing will be provided by the Nebraska Infertility Prevention Project (IPP).
- Contact the coordinator of the IPP Program with questions.
- Urine STD testing is available through the IPP/Semi-STD project.
- Treatment (Azithromycin for Chlamydia and Ceftriaxone for Gonorrhea) is available at no charge.
- For clinics that are not enrolled, please contact the coordinator to set up an appointment. Lab specimens will be picked up by Nebraska Public Health Lab and there is an electronic form to complete for lab management.
- 6. Use qualified medical interpreters to assist with client interviews, health education and orientation to the U.S. health care system, and to facilitate the referral process. *Please note Nebraska does not license medical interpreters, it will be up to the clinic to decide if an interpreter is qualified.*
- 7. Maintain linkages to appropriate primary care providers or specialists for necessary follow-up services not available on site, including public health and inpatient facilities, psychological counselors, drug and alcohol treatment services and other community providers. Please see Attachment C for the release of information that must be completed for each refugee who needs referrals.
- 8. Assure continuity of care, and referrals (referral means setting up a specified appointment with a designated provider) are timely, and when possible, in proximity to the refugee's residence.
 - Refugees should be referred to participating Medicaid specialty and primary health care services for treatment and follow-up of acute and chronic conditions identified during the overseas and domestic health screening.
 - When refugees are referred for specialty or primary care, the referring health care providers must be informed of the results of the initial health screening (See Attachment D). It will be up to the provider to utilize their own release of information form to transfer health records between other health care providers.

- Follow-up care may be provided by the provider performing the initial health screening but must be billed to Medicaid.
- 9. Refugees will be encouraged to complete their vaccinations at the site where the initial health exam occurred.
- 10. The clinic will have a civil surgeon on staff to sign USCIS Form I-693 for verification of vaccinations (for adjustment of status at 1 year). This is included in the package rate. Health departments may utilize a blanket waiver as long as the physician on staff meets the civil surgeon requirements. For refugees who arrived in the U.S. without a Class A condition, only immunizations* need to be reviewed and updated. This service is included as part of the refugee health assessment screening.
 - The USCIS Form I-693 (updated as of November 1, 2011) is used to record immunizations and must be signed by the civil surgeon or by a physician affiliated with the local public health agency (blanket waiver) completing the review. The following sections of USCIS Form I-693 need to be completed:

a. Part 1: Information about you

b. Part 2: Section 5. Vaccinations

c. Part 5: Civil surgeon's certification

OR

d. Part 6: Health department's identifying information

- For refugees who arrived in the U.S. with a Class A condition, the entire medical exam is required, including any necessary vaccinations. This is not covered within the refugee health assessment screening.
- Refugees must meet vaccination requirements according to age-appropriate
 recommendations by the Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices
 (ACIP). Because completion of a vaccine series often requires several months,
 applicants are required to complete at least one dose of each vaccine by the
 time of assessment for the I-693, and are encouraged to follow up with a
 primary health care provider to complete the series.
- The clinic can provide civil surgeon signatures on vaccines up to 13 months after their original arrival date. After that time frame, the refugee is responsible for payment of a civil surgeon signature

Question and Answers about Civil Surgeons http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/refugee/guide/civilsurgfag.pdf

- 11. Maintain patient records in accordance with 45 CFR 400.28.
- 12. Participate in refugee health meetings and site visits conducted by Nebraska DHHS Refugee Services Program staff.
 - During the site visits providers must assure prompt access to all program sites
 and all records and reports relating to the program. To do so, the health care
 provider must provide a disclosure form to its patients to have Nebraska DHHS
 staff access their records for its monitoring purpose.
 - Records are the property of the provider agency. However, information pertaining to Refugee Health Screening Program surveillance requirements must be accessible to Nebraska DHHS.
 - Please submit the quarterly Quality Assurance form (Attachment B) once a quarter (due March 30, June 30th, September 30th, and December 31^{st)}. Please send via mail, fax, or secure email.
- 13. Maintain adequate staffing and systems for fiscal accounting and program billing.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STATE -- Nebraska DHHS Refugee Health Program

The Nebraska DHHS Refugee Health Program will support the efforts of the designated health screening providers by furnishing technical assistance to enhance the effectiveness of the Program including, but not be limited to, the following:

- 1. Provide direction, training, health screening forms and other materials as needed to health screening providers regarding the Refugee Health Screening Program.
- Oversee the health screening provider's performance and conduct on-site visits to the
 contracted sites to ensure compliance with the terms of the agreement. The Program
 will also provide telephone and/or on-site technical assistance to providers as required.
- 3. Provide pertinent information, such as trends in morbidity that may be specific to ethnicity or country of origin, to be shared with health screening providers and, as applicable, VOLAGs and other governmental and non-governmental groups.
- 4. Use surveillance findings as the basis for recommendations for revisions to the health screening, payments and instructions (Attachment A and B).
- 5. Assist in the establishment of linkages between VOLAGs and refugee health screening providers to ensure new arrivals' access to medical care.
- 6. Pay the health screening providers a package rate of \$539 for a completed health assessment screening when completed within the 90 days of arrival.
- 7. Notify the health screening providers immediately when a problem arises regarding the performance of duties as specified in the agreement.

V. NEBRASKA REFUGEE HEALTH ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES AND INSTRUCTIONS

The patient must be a valid class of refugee (holding I-94, letter of asylum, certification as trafficking victim, etc). Complete payment for health screens will be paid only if the screen is initiated within ninety (90) days of the refugee's arrival into the United States (45 CFR 400.107).

Overseas Medical Document Review

The purpose of this section is to review the findings from:

- the overseas visa medical examination form as reported on the DS-2053 (OF-157)
- the overseas Medical Examination of Applicants for U.S. Visas
- other related documents and follow up on identified conditions.

If available, review:

- The overseas medical exam DS 2053 (OF-157), IOM bag. (The International Organization for Migration [IOM] manages health issues associated with processing of migrants in sending, transit, and receiving countries. IOM's health services work include medical screening for travel and resettlement.)
- documentation of Class A or B conditions
- any other overseas medical documents

Confirm or reject overseas diagnoses. If further evaluation is needed to confirm any diagnosis, refer the refugee for evaluation as appropriate.

What if overseas records are not available?

Missing overseas records may be due to one of the following situations:

- Records are available but the refugee forgot to bring them. In this situation, ask the
 refugee if he/she can bring the records to the next visit. Make it very clear to the refugee
 that it is very important for the purpose of the health assessment to review these
 records. In this case, proceed with the health screening assessment. Providers may
 want to defer immunizations to the next visit.
- Only some records are available. Proceed with the health screening assessment.
- No records are available. On occasion, the refugee misplaces their medical. Call the Nebraska Refugee Health Program at 402-471-1372 with the A# and request to have the record looked up electronically.

<u>Instructions For the Refugee Health Assessment Screening Form</u> *Print/Type all information clearly.*

SECTION I: Refugee Personal and Demographic Information (Nebraska Refugee Health Assessment Screening Form, Attachment D, page 1-2)

The purpose of this section is to ensure that demographic data and health assessment data is collected, recorded and tracked for further evaluation and for program monitoring purposes.

Name: Family name first, followed by given name and middle name. (REQUIRED)

Date of Birth: Include month, day, and year. (REQUIRED)

Arrival Status: Mark if patient is refugee, asylee, victim or trafficking. (REQUIRED)

Note: Asylees' status is not always indicated on their I-94 form; instead their I-94 status is noted on a letter from USCIS indicating their asylum granted status and the date the asylum granted. A copy of any verification documents must be retained in the refugee's file.

Alien number: The "A" number is usually located at the back of the USCIS form I-94 departure. (REQUIRED)

Arrival in U.S. OR **Status Granted Date**: Month/Day/Year. The date of arrival is located on the front page of the I-94 under the refugee status stamp. The date may be stamped, typed written or hand-written. (REQUIRED)

Secondary Migrant: Please mark if refugee initially was resettled outside of Nebraska and has since relocated to Nebraska. (**REQUIRED**)

Social Security: Please document first three digits of the refugee's social security number (REQUIRED)

TB Class A or B: Please note if a refugee is Class A (HIV, mental illness) or has a Class TB status. (REQUIRED if Class A or Class B)

Site: Please mark which site the initial refugee health screening took place. (REQUIRED)

Oversees Medical Document Review: Please note if the overseas medical document was available for review. (REQUIRED)

Allergies: Please note any allergies the patient has. If none, please mark no known medical allergies. (REQUIRED)

Interpreter Used: Please mark if an interpreter was used for any part of the refugee initial health screening.

Language Spoken: Record the language that the refugee identifies as their native language(s).

Blood Pressure: Perform blood pressure on all refugees. (REQUIRED)

Height: Record height or length in inches for all refugees. (REQUIRED)

Weight: Record in pounds. (REQUIRED)

Nutritional evaluation of all refugee children 18 and under upon arrival with Body Mass Index. (REQUIRED IF UNDER AGE 18)

Temperature: Record in Celsius.

Head Circumference: For all children 2 years of age and under (**REQUIRED IF UNDER 2 YEARS OF AGE**)

Visual Acuity: Record in the format of 20/20. Use Snellen Eye Chart. Mark referral if patient wears glasses or has poor vision.

Hearing-Whisper Test: Whisper in the patient's ear. If there is no difficulty, mark Within Normal Limits. If patient has difficulty with hearing or wears hearing aids please mark referral.

Screening Tests

TB Skin Test: Tuberculosis (TB)

- Perform a tuberculin skin test (TST) for all individuals regardless of BCG history, unless
 documented previous test. Pregnancy is not a medical contraindication for TST testing
 or for treatment of active or latent TB. TST administered prior to 6 months of age may
 yield false negative results.
- A chest x-ray should be performed for all individuals with a positive TST result
- A chest x-ray should also be performed regardless of TST results for:
 - 1. those with a TB Class A or B designation from overseas exam, and/or
 - 2. those who have symptoms compatible with TB disease.
- Quantiferon is not part of the Nebraska Refugee Health Screening, but is noted on the screening form in case it is done (Medicaid does reimburse in certain instances).
- Complete the Treatment start date if Isoniazid is stated. (Required)

The "TB Follow-Up Worksheet" will be completed and returned to the local health department TB nurse when the initial health assessment is completed for all Class B TB arrivals. This worksheet data is submitted to CDC. *It is both important and required to complete the form.*

For Omaha, please return to:

Douglas County Health Department:

Phone: 402-444-4049 Fax: 402-444-3287

For Lincoln, please return to:

Lincoln Lancaster County Health Department

Phone: 402-441-6214 Fax: 402-441-6205

STDs: Sexually Transmitted Diseases:

- Screen for syphilis for ages 12 and above using RPR. (REQUIRED)
- If you suspect syphilis in a patient younger than 12, providers may run a RPR based upon their health history, risk factors or abnormal exam.
- If the RPR is positive, please refer to Douglas County STD Clinic or Lincoln/Lancaster County STD Clinic for evaluation and treatment.
- Please use Nebraska Infertility Prevention Project Semi-STD testing account for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea urine testing. Please contact the Nebraska Infertility Prevention Project Coordinator, (402-471-3724) for questions on IPP on how to set up an account.

- HIV/AIDS: Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
 - Test all patients ages 13 to 64 years of age. (REQURIED)
 - Test other patients that fall outside of this range based upon history, risk factors, or abnormal exam.

Pregnancy:

Complete a urine pregnancy test for all females of childbearing age. (REQUIRED)

Hepatitis Screening: A, B, and C

- Determine Hepatitis A, B and C infection status for all refugees –adults and children with the following five serologic tests:
 - 1. Hepatitis A IgM antibodies
 - 2. HBsAg (hepatitis B surface antigen)
 - 3. HBsHBcAb-IgM (Hepatitis B IgM core antibody)
 - 4. HBsAb (Hepatitis, B surface antibody)
 - 5. and (HC Ab)Hepatitis C Antibodies. Please do all screening tests for all refugees (children and adults) (REQUIRED)

Intestinal Parasite Screening:

- Do screening based upon CDC recommendations.
- Instruct all refugees to submit two stool specimens obtained more than 24 hours apart.
- Provide detailed instruction about specimen collection and give kits to patients.
- Draw a CBC with differential to evaluate for eosinophilia. The existence of a tissue invasive parasite must be considered in patients with eosinophilia. (REQUIRED)

The most commonly found pathogenic parasites are *Trichuris* (whipworm), *Giardia*, *Entamoeba histolytica*, *Schistosoma*, hookworm, and *Ascaris*. Parasites may obstruct the intestine, bile ducts, lymph channels, and capillaries of the brain and other organs, with serious medical consequences.

Lice and scabies mites are two common arthropod parasites often found in refugee populations.

CBC with Differential: Complete Blood Count

- Evaluate for eosinophilia by obtaining a CBC with differential.
- Please note hemoglobin and hematocrit.
- Screen all refugees. (REQUIRED)

Malaria:

- Clinicians should have a high index of suspicion for malaria, particularly for refugees from tropical and subtropical areas who have fever of unknown origin or other characteristic symptoms.
- Sub-Saharan Africans frequently originate in highly endemic areas where asymptomatic
 infection is common and should undergo either presumptive treatment on arrival
 (preferred) if there is no documentation of pre-departure therapy, or have laboratory
 screening.
- For all other refugees, asymptomatic infection is rare and testing should be performed only in individuals with signs or symptoms suggestive of disease.
- If malaria is suspected, a smear of peripheral blood should be examined for parasites.
 Accurate diagnosis depends on the quality of the blood film and the technique of laboratory personnel. When PCR is available it is the preferred method of diagnosis in asymptomatic refugees.
- Because treatment varies by species of *Plasmodium*, diagnosis should be confirmed by experienced personnel.

- A single blood film examination may be falsely negative for malaria parasites. Repeated blood films over 48 hours (e.g., every 12 hours x 3) may be required to exclude the possibility of malaria.
- To confirm diagnosis of questionable cases or to obtain appropriate treatment recommendations, contact the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

Extended Lab Services

Lead Screening:

- Refugee children age 6 months-16 years should have a venous blood lead screening level. (REQUIRED)
- No repeat levels will be covered under Refugee Medical Assistance Program.
- Please note specific level.

Urinanalysis: Dipstick

- Ages 4 and up.
- Perform if patient is old enough to void a urine specimen.
- Do not perform if patient is unable to provide a clean catch sample.
- Please mark if the sample is within normal limits, has blood, protein, glucose, ketones or leukocytes. (REQUIRED FOR PATIENTS WHO CAN VOID A CLEAN CATCH URINE SPECIMEN)

Complete Metabolic Profile: (CMP)

 Screen based upon signs, symptoms or comorbities based upon the provider's discretion.

Lipid Panel: Suggested recommendations (includes total cholesterol, lipoprotein, direct measurement, high density cholesterol and triglycerides)

- Screen men age 35 and older and women age 45 years and older.
- Screen men ages 20 to 35 years and women 20 to 45 years of age if they have increased risk for coronary heart disease (diabetes, tobacco use, hypertension, family history of cardiovascular disease in male relative or age 60 in female relatives).
- Providers may screen upon their discretion.

Occult Blood Stool:

 All refugees age 50 and older may be offered this screening test at the provider's discretion.

Sickle Cell Disease:

- Screen with the lab test hemoglobin electrophoresesis.
- Screen patients that are from certain parts of Africa (west and central), India, Middle East, and the Mediterranean Basin.
- Providers may screen upon their discretion.

Referrals:

• Please note any referrals made.

SECTION II: Core Health Screening (Nebraska Refugee Health Assessment Screening Form page 3-4)

NOTE: Be sure to fill out the last, first, middle name and alien number at the top of the page. This is especially useful when/if forms need to be faxed.

The purpose of this **required** section is to perform a complete, detailed history and physical examination for all refugees to ensure diagnosis and treatment of conditions not previously detected as well as to identify conditions with a potential to adversely impact effective resettlement of a refugee. While the Refugee Health Program is a screening program, clinicians should be cognizant that their assessment may be the first full medical evaluation the refugee patient has had. Therefore, providers are asked to perform a general history and physical exam. This may include migration history and history of trauma.

Providers should also recognize that the refugee health screening encounter may be a new cultural experience for many refugees and will provide a profound first impression about health care in U.S. Therefore, sensitivity toward the refugee's gender, culture, and other issues is very important.

MEDICAL HISTORY (Attachment D-page 3) (REQUIRED)

Mark "0" if within normal limits. Mark with a check "√" mark if abnormal or if problems are present. Comments may be noted at the bottom of page 3 and top of page 4).

PHYSICAL EXAM (Attachment D – page 3) (REQUIRED)

Summarize and record data on significant past or current medical conditions or disabilities as well as preventive care such as immunizations and dental work. Document any relevant family history as completely as possible. A copy of the refugee health assessment must remain in the refugee's medical record at the clinical site.

Mark "0" if within normal limits, Mark with a check "✓" mark if abnormal or if problems are present.

Female and male reproductive health exams will not be covered under RMA. Please contact Every Woman Matters Program at (402) 471- 0929 for more information on well woman exams.

Other

Dental Exam:

 Please look inside patient's mouth and note any dental complaints. Please mark appropriate box. The teeth diagram is optional for the provider to mark for any problem areas. (REQUIRED

IMMUNIZATION STATUS (REQUIRED)

NESIIS: Nebraska State Information Immunization Information System

The purpose of this **required** section is to ensure that every child and adult refugee is appropriately immunized against vaccine-preventable diseases. It is preferred that refugees start immunizations within 90 days of their arrival to U.S. At a minimum, providers are required to initiate appropriate vaccination, refer refugees to primary care, and educate refugee about USCIS and school requirements, and follow-up timing.

Required Steps for Immunizations

Providers must do the following:

- Evaluate immunization history and review all available related overseas documentations
- Document immunity based on exam, history or serologic testing (Per Nebraska Refugee Health Assessment Guidelines)
- Use the Nebraska State Information Immunization Information System (NESIIS) to document immunizations for all refugees.
- Initiate all necessary age-appropriate vaccines per the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) adult and children vaccine schedules. Varicella and Human Papilloma Quadrivalent vaccines will <u>not</u> be covered for refugee adults.
- Give all refugees a childhood and/or adult vaccination booklet, with completed documentation of past and the Refugee Health Screening vaccinations.
- Instruct refugees to bring the documentation to all medical visits including the Civil Surgeon evaluation required for change of status applications.
- Utilize the "Vaccines for Children" program for children 18 and under for all vaccinations.
- The clinic will document in NESIIS if the refugee is unable to complete the series.

The refugee is not expected to provide a donation or administrative fee that sometimes is suggested for the Vaccines for Children Program. Administrative fees have been accounted for.

REFERRALS

The purpose of this section is to facilitate linkages to appropriate specialty and primary care providers for necessary follow-up services not available on site, including public health and inpatient facilities, psychosocial counselors, drug and alcohol treatment services and other community providers. Please check all referrals made.

Required Referrals to Primary Care

To ensure continuity of health care, all refugees must be referred to a primary care provider. Providers must refer refugees to a primary care provider either at the provider's site or elsewhere.

Most refugees lack transportation, therefore, it is advisable that appointments be made in proximity to the refugee's residence.

The name of the primary care provider (and/or clinic site), address, phone number and fax number of the provider; and appointment date, and the time must be noted on the health screening form.

Other Referrals

Providers should also make referrals as appropriate, for other medical, dental and support services.

Authorization For The Release And Use Of Information

The purpose of this section is to facilitate HIPAA compliance. This enables providers to allow Nebraska DHHS staff access to all refugee records, assuring prompt access to all program sites and reports relating to the Refugee Health Screening program.

Providers must provide an authorization for the release and use of protected health information form (PHI) to refugees for their signature and dating, which authorizes Nebraska DHHS staff access to their records for invoicing and monitoring purposes. Records are the property of the provider agency. However, information pertaining to Refugee Medical Screening Program invoices, reports and surveillance requirements must be accessible to Nebraska DHHS.

NOTE: Health providers or their affiliates may not sign the witness section. This section must be signed by a third party (non affiliate of the health provider), e.g., resettlement agency representative, another patient or refugee, or a relative of a refugee.

Attachment A

Nebraska Refugee Health Screening Billing Form (for arrivals within first 90 days)

Name		Date of Birth
Date initial health screen started _		Date completed
Clinical Site (circle one) Creighton Florence Clinic		
Lincoln-Lancaster County F	Health Departmei	nt
***Providers may not bill both Program for the same service		the Refugee Health Screening
☐ Health Screening completed _	(date)	If these two boxes are checked – bill \$458
☐ Immunizations initiated☐ Immunizations completed	(date)	If this box is checked within time limits - bill remainder of \$81
	(uaie)	Dili Terriali idei Oi ֆo i
	(Signature & T	

Attachment B

Quarterly Refugee Health Screening Site Quality Assurance

Clinica	al Site (Circle One)		
	Creighton Florence Clinic		
	Lincoln-Lancaster County Hea	lth Department	
1.	What has been working in the screening?	clinic for the last quarter in re-	gards to the refugee health
2.	What problems have you enco health screening?	ountered within the last quarte	r in regards to the refugee
3.	How many refugees lost conta within the last quarter and wha health screening (outmigrated	at were the reasons you were	
4.		Male	Female
	Number of Refugees referred to		
	Primary Care		
	Mental Health Services		
	Dental Care		
	Vision Care		
	Disability Services		
	High Public Concern (infectious disease, HIV, suicide)		
ļ		Male	Female

Number of Children Referred to Primary Care

 List the top five health issues for all r 1. 	eferrals (children and adults)?
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
(O: 0 Titl)	
(Signature & Title)	(Date Submitted)



Authorization for the Disclosure of Protected Health Information

It has been explained that failure to sign this form will not affect treatment, or payment, **however** it may affect enrollment, or eligibility for certain benefits, provided per Health and Human Services. I understand the advantages and disadvantages and freely and voluntarily give permission to release specific information about me.

	Client Name (Last, First, M.I.)		Date of Birth
	Social Security Number	Case/ Chart Number	Period Covered Admission of:
	Information will be disclosed to: (Name, And The information to be released pursuant to records/information from or in the poss	o this authorization is limited	Reason for Disclosure: Eligibility Determination Request of Subject Individual Insurance Claim Legal Purposes Consultation and/or Treatment Planning Other (Please Specify)
Spe	ecific Information to be disclosed:		
	Medications	•	& Physical Examination
	Progress Notes	Laborato	•
	Diagnosis		e Summary
	Psychiatric History & Treatment		e Referral Form
	Psychological Evaluation & Treatment	HIV Info	
	Social History	Other (be	e specific)
	Drug/Alcohol Information		

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This Authorization (unless revoked earlier in writing) shall terminate on	(must have date or event filled
in) By Signing this author	rization, I acknowledge that the
information to be released MAY INCLUDE material that is protecte	d by Federal law and that is
applicable to EITHER Drug/Alcohol or HIV related information or BO	OTH. My signature authorizes
release of all such information. I also understand this authorization m	ay be revoked at any time by
submitting a written request in accordance with the Notice of Pri	vacy Practices the Nebraska
Department of Health and Human Services, published April 14, 2003 a	nd it will be honored with the
exception of information that has already been released. I a	lso understand that if the
person(s)/organizations authorized to receive my PHI is not a health pla	an or health care provider, the
released information may no longer be protected by federal privacy regula	ations.
Client's Signature	Date
Personal Representative (□ Parent, □ Guardian, □ Power of Attorney)	Date
,	
Witness's Signature	Date

NOTICE TO RECIPIENT

This information has been disclosed to you from records whose confidentiality is protected by state and federal laws (to include Federal Regulations, 42 CFR Part 2 of 1983) which prohibit you from making any further disclosure of it without the specific written consent of the person to whom it pertains or as otherwise permitted by such regulations. A general authorization for the release of medical or other information is NOT sufficient for this purpose.

REV: 07-01-07

Attachment D -- Nebraska Refugee Health Assessment Screening Form

Nebraska Refugee Health Assessment Screening Form

i. Refugee Personal and Demographic Information	
Name (Last, First, Middle):	_ Date of Birth:
Arrival Status:	Alien Number:
U.S. Arrival Date (Month, Day, Year):	Secondary Migrant: Yes No
Social Security (first 3 digits)	
TB class A or B status	
Site: Creighton –Florence Clinic	
☐ Lincoln-Lancaster Health Dept.	
Overseas Medical Document Review: Yes Not available	
Allergies:	
Interpreter used: Language Spoken:	
Blood Pressure: Temperature: °C I	Pulse:
Height: inch Weight: ibs Bo	ody Mass Index:
Height: inch Weight: lbs Both (cm) Visual Snellen: L R Both Hearing/Whisper T	est: Within Normal Limits Referral
Tuberculosis Screening-If Class B please complete "TB Follow-Up Wo	orksheet"
Tuberculin Skin Test: Chest X-Ray:	Diagnosis:
mm induration	☐ No TB infection or disease
☐ Past history of positive TST ☐ Abnormal, stable, old or hea	led TB
☐ Given, Not Read ☐ Abnormal, Cavitary	Old, healed, no prev. Tx TB
☐ Declined Test ☐ Abnormal, Non-Cavitary,	Old healed, prev Tx TB
□ Not Done Consistent with active TB	Active TB disease
Abnormal, not consistent	(suspected or confirmed)
with Active TB	Pending
Quantiferon: Pending	☐ Incomplete eval., lost to F/U
Positive	incomplete evan, lest to 176
☐ Negative	
☐ Indeterminate	
☐ Not done	
Treatment: Start Date: Completed Treatm	ent overseas
☐ Medically Contraindicated ☐ Moved out of NE ☐ Lo	ost to F/U
Other:	
Sexually Transmitted Diseases:	
1. Syphilis (RPR) Non-Reactive Reactive Referred to	<u>=</u>
	Date: Results Pending
•	Date: Results Pending
4. HIV/AIDS Negative Positive, referred to special	alist? L Yes L No
Pregnant: ☐ Yes ☐ No	
Hepatitis Screening:	
1. Anti-HAV Negative Positive Indeterminate	te Results Pending
2. HBsAg	
3. anti-HBc Negative Positive Indeterminate Indeterminate	
4. anti-HBs Negative Positive Indeterminate Indeterminate	=
a.a. i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	

5. anti-HCV	egative	eterminate
 Intestinal Parasite Screen 1. Was screening for paras Not Screened for Parasite Screened, Results For Screened, No Parasite Screened 	ites done (check one) arasites Pending	
Please Check Parasite Ascarsis Clond Schistosoma S	orchis	a 🗌 Giardia 🔲 Hookworm 🔲 Paragonimus
	e?	esults Pending
☐ Screened, Results Pend☐ Screened, no malaria fo☐ Screened, malaria species found Referred for the screened for the screene	ding bund in blood smears ies found (please specify): :	icious of malaria, not from SubSahara Africa) No hysician/clinic
Lead Screening: (children Urinanalysis: (Over age 4 Within Normal Limits Blood Protein Fasting Blood Glucose:	□) s □ Incomplete □ Glucose □ Ketones	
	☐ Abnormal ☐ Abnormal Negative ☐ Not applicabl	Not applicable Not applicable e Not applicable
Referrals: Primary Care Provider Mental Health WIC GI General Medicine Ear, Nose, & Throat (EN		 □ Vision □ Family Planning □ Public Health Nurse □ Pediatrics □ Urology □ Neurology

II. Core Health Screening	Name (Last, First, Middle):	Alien Number:
Medical History		

Micuica		
HEAD/ EYES	HEADACHES/INJURIES SURGERY // VISUA GLASSES TRAUMA	L LOSS DIPLOPIA DRAINAGE INFLAMATION PHOTOPHOBIA
ENT	PAIN DRAINAGE DEAFNESS TINITUS VERTIGO // DISCHARGE OBSTRUCTION EPISTAXIS/ SORE THROAT HORSENESS VOICE CHANGES	
RESP	DYSPNEA COUGH SPUTUM WHEEZING	PNEUMONIA CONGESTION PAIN
cv	CP PALPITATIONS DOE PND ORTHOPNE	A EDEMA MURMURS HTN CLAUDICATION CYNANOSIS
GI	WT CHANGES APPETITE CHANGES DYSPH HEMATOCHEZIA MELENA BOWEL CHANG	AGIA N/V DIARRHEA CONSTIPATION HEMATEMESIS ES PAIN
GU/ GYN		TURIA NOCTURIA STONES INFXNS PROSTATE DISEASE HEA STD's BREAST DISEASE - DISCHARGE / LMP
MS	ARTHRITIS FRACTURES PAIN WEAKNES	SS STIFFNESS ATROPHY
NEURO/ PSYCH		RS NUMBNESS PAIN MEMORY LOSS INCOORDINATION ANXIETY HALLUCIANTIONS DELUSIONS SLEEP
SKIN/ ENDO		LOR CHANGES, DECUBITUS ULCER, GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT CHANGES POLYURIA POLYDIPSIA POLYPHAGIA
PHYS	L EXAM: O = WNL	' = ABNORMAL/PROBLEM (see comments)
GEN	ALERT ORIENTED TO TIME PLACE & PERSO GROOMED	ON NO DISTRESS DEVELOPMENTALLLY STABLE WELL
HEAD/ EYES	NORMOCEPH ATRAUMATIC // PERRLA EON POST SEG RETINA & VESSEL	II LIDS/CONJ NL OPTIC DISC SIZE RATIO & APPEAR NL
ENT	TM'S NL CANALS CLEAR NASAL MUCOS / SEPTUM / TURBES NL MASSES NEG SINUS NEG HARD/SORFT PALATE & TONGUE NL TONSILS & POST PHARYNX NL	
NECK	ADEOPATHY NEG THYROID NEG JVD NEG BRUITS NEG RIGIDITY NEG SYMMETRIC TRACHEA MIDLINE	
CARDIO VASC	REG WITHOUT MURMURS GALLOPS OR RUBS CAROTID/ABD/FEM/PEDAL PULSES-ADEO EXT'S WITHOUT EDEMA/VARICOSITIES/CYANO	
CHEST/ BREAST	LUNGS CTAB DULL/FLAT/HYPERRIES NEG RETRACTION NEG//SYMMETRIC NIPPLE DISCHARGE/INVERSION NEG MASSES NEG TENDER NEG	
ABD/ RECTAL	BS POS IN 4 QUADS MASSES NEG TENDER/R NEG//MASSES/LESIONS NEG GUAIAC NEG TO	EBOUND/GUARD NEG HEP/SPENOMEG NEG HERNIA NEG NE NL
GU	DC NEG F - VAG / EXT GENT - LESIONS / CYST	ULES / NEG SYMMETRIC PENIS / SCROTUM – LESIONS / RASHES / IT / RECTOCELE NEG BLAD / URETH – MASS / TENDER NEG CX / ISG SEIZE / POSITION / SUPP CONSISTENCY NL
MS	GAIT & STATION / MOTION / STRENGTH / STA SWELLING / NUMBNESS / ATROPHY / WEAKN EXTREMITIES	BILITY / TONE – ADEQ ESS / ASYMMETRY / EFFUS /TENDER / RED – NEG IN
NEURO/ PSYCH	CN 2-2 INTACT DTR'S NL CEREBELLAR INTACT BABINSKI / RHOMBERG NEG RECENT & REMOTE MEMORY INTACT GRASP / SUCK REFLEX NL JUDGEMENT & INSIGHT STABLE ORIENTED X 3 RECENT & REMOTE STABLE MOODS AFFECT STABLE ATTENTION SPAN / CONC / D KNOWLEDGE NL DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE	
SKIN/ LYMPH	HEAD / NECK / TRUCNK / EXT-RASHES / LESIC AXILLAE / GROIN – ADENOPATHY NEG	ONS / ULCERS NEG JAUNDICE NEG CYANOSIS NEG // NECK /

COMMENTS: _	 	 	

<u>Dental History</u>	
☐ Gums bleed when brushing ☐ Gums bleed when flossing ☐ Sensitive to hot/cold ☐ Never been to Dentist	Wears bridge Wears partial Dentures
Per	rmanent Teeth Chart
5 (x) 4 (x) 3 (4)	50005"11 212 213
2 (*) 1 (*) 32 (*)	**************************************
30 (A) 29 (X) 28 (2)	7 26 25 24 ²³
	Gums bleed when brushing Gums bleed when flossing Sensitive to hot/cold Never been to Dentist Per 3 4 3 4 3 4 3 4 3 4 3 4 3 4 3 4 3 4 3

^{***} Please enter immunizations on NESIIS Immunization Database System****